

# March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions — All Month —</b>	<i>1</i> 2:00pm Baby Shower for Trevor & Holly Bough — Stockton Christian Church
<i>2</i> <b>Sunday School 9:30am</b> <b>Worship 10:45am &amp; 6:00pm</b> 12:00 pm Trustees Meeting 5:00pm WMU Meeting 5:00pm Youth, Men's Bible Study 6:00pm Children	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 5:30pm Finance Committee Mtg 6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer for North American Missions—March 2nd thru 9th						
<i>9</i> Daylight Saving Time Begins <b>Sunday School 9:30am</b> <b>Worship 10:45am &amp; 6:00pm</b> 5:00pm Youth, Adults 6:00pm WMU Missions Service 6:00pm Children 7:00pm Business Meeting	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
Week of Prayer	Meals on Wheels—March 10th thru 14th					
<i>16</i> <b>Sunday School 9:30am</b> <b>Worship 10:45am &amp; 6:00pm</b> 5:00pm Youth, Adults 6:00pm Children	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> <b>Sunday School 9:30am</b> <b>Worship 10:45am &amp; 6:00pm</b> 5:00pm Youth, Adults 6:00pm Children	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> <b>Sunday School 9:30am</b> <b>Worship 10:45am &amp; 6:00pm</b> 10:45am Benevolence Offering 5:00pm Youth, Adults 6:00pm Children 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting	<i>31</i>					

## MARCH

**Birthdays of the Month**

- 3. Jim Pelfry
- 4. Donna Pelfry  
Darlene Hime
- 5. Gabby Johnson
- 8. Jeana Wilson
- 10. Ryan Pate  
Melinda Gumm
- 11. Billie Wilson  
Kaden Henderson  
Ernie Foote
- 13. Kelly Creek
- 15. Carol Sanstra  
Beaux Brogdon
- 20. Caleb Mantonya

**Anniversaries of the Month**

- 12. John & Pam Pate



## Pastor Jason's Column

### Saint Patrick and His Day

The month of March brings with it the hope of spring as life begins to awaken from a long winters nap. March is also the home of a funny little day of strange traditions on the 17<sup>th</sup>. St. Patrick's Day makes us think of green clovers, leprechauns, McDonald's Shamrock Shake, and getting pinched if we're not wearing green. My family always watched the Quiet Man on St. Patrick's Day, starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. It's about an American who reclaims his family's home in Ireland. He is seeks the tranquil life of a farmer, while hiding from his life back in the States. Some celebrate the day by drinking a lot of green beer and making poor decisions. If asked who St. Patrick was, some of us would say something about chasing the snakes from Ireland, but that's about it. How many of us really know what this day is about or who this saint was that the day is named for?

His real name was Maewyn Succat, and he was born in Roman Britain during the 4<sup>th</sup> century. He was the son of a deacon and the grandson of a priest. This sounds funny that a catholic priest would have a family, but celibacy of priests was not consistently agreed upon throughout the Holy Roman Empire. When he was sixteen Maewyn was captured by Irish pirates. These raiders brought him back to Ireland where he became a slave. Despite his family's faith, Maewyn was not religious, but during his captivity he was saved. He grew spiritually during this time and his faith in God strengthened. He served his Irish masters as a shepherd. After being enslaved for six years he began to feel God calling him to go back home. He escaped captivity and returned to Britain where he continued to study Christianity and eventually became a priest, and took the Latin name Patricius or Patrick. In 432 A.D. God cast a vision to Patrick to go back to Ireland and take the

good news of Jesus to the pagan people. The same people who kidnapped and enslaved him.

Patrick went back to Ireland and ministered to many chieftains. He led many of these men to Christ, and in turn entire villages of people. In his lifetime he saw the construction of schools and churches along the West and Northern coasts of Ireland. Patrick used the shamrock, a three leaved clover, to teach the people about the Trinity. The legend about him driving out all the snakes from Ireland sounds ridiculous because there have never been snakes on the island, due to the cold waters preventing migration. However it is most likely a metaphor for the evil paganism that he drove from the Island. March 17 is the day traditionally recognized by the Catholic Church as the day he died. They made March 17 the Feast of St. Patrick, which gives Catholics one day of reprieve from the things they are abstaining for during the Lent season. The Irish would pick a shamrock and wear it on their lapel on March 17<sup>th</sup> in honor of Patrick. The green of the Shamrock was adopted by the United Irish Uprising in 1798, and they wore articles of green clothing as a uniform. This is why we wear green on St. Patrick's Day. Orange is the color worn by Protestant Irish. However, Patrick's vestments were blue.

Catholics venerate Christian men and women as Saints who they feel embody Christian values best or died martyr's death. In 1 Corinthians 1:2, Paul calls all followers of Christ saints. He says we are *hagiasmemois en Xristo Iesou* which means we are being sanctified or being made holy in Jesus Christ. Then he says we are *kletois hagiois* or called to be set apart. As followers of Jesus we all are being conformed by the Holy Spirit to be set apart or different from the world. We are all called to be holy representatives of Jesus to the world around us. Remember this St. Patrick's Day that God has called us to our own Irelands. We are called to speak the good news to those we come in contact with, telling them of the hope that we have found in Jesus, the forgiveness of sin that changed us from an enemy of God to His child.

In Christ,

Pastor Jason Mabry



Week of Prayer for  
North American Missions  
March 2-9, 2014

# FIRMLY PLANTED

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG** NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD **FSBC**  
EASTER OFFERING® **Goal: \$1000**

AnnieArmstrong.com

Please call Stacie Spurgeon (276-5047) or the church office if you or someone you know would like to ride the church van to services on Sunday mornings.

First Southern Baptist Church  
405 W. Englewood Drive  
Stockton, MO 65785  
(417) 276-3441

Office Hours: Tues.- Fri.—8:30am-2:30pm

Office: [fsbcstockton@windstream.net](mailto:fsbcstockton@windstream.net)

Website: <http://fsbcstockton.org>

## FSBC NEWSLETTER



# 2014

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